In re Appln. of Hermann Schmodde et al.
Application No. 10/030,790

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

16. (Previously Presented) A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for securing the yarn feeder to a retaining device of a textile machine;

said housing (3) being made of plastic;

said fastening clamp (4) having a box-like cross-sectional profile with portions that incur clamping forces when said fastening clamp is fastened to a retaining device; and

said fastening clamp portions being formed entirely of the plastic material of said housing.

17. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

18. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 17 in which said housing has two parts (25, 33), and said jaw is formed on one of the housing parts (25, 33).

19. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 17 in which the housing parts (25, 33) fit over one another in the region of the fastening clamp (4), and said housing parts (25, 33) are joined together by at least one support (27, 28) in the region of the fastening device (4).

20. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 16 including a coupling device (86) for connecting at least one further housing component (89, 90) as required on the housing (3).

21. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 20 in which said coupling device (86) is disposed above the fastening clamp (4).

22. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which the housing (3) has receptacles into which metal elements (38, 39) are disposed and which serve as conductor tracks for electrical components associated with the yarn feeder.

23. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which an electrically grounded conductor is disposed within the housing and is connected to at least one metal

element (95) that is in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder.

24. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 23 including movable yarn sensor elements (45) supported on the metal elements.

25. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 16 in which the box-like cross-sectional profile of the fastening clamp (4) has an interior that includes ribs (33a', 33b', 33c') disposed in parallel relation to each other.

26. (Previously Presented) A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a plastic fastening clamp (4) for fastening to a retaining device of a textile machine;

a shaft (6) extending through said housing (3);

a yarn guide drum (12) mounted adjacent an end of said shaft;

a drive for rotating said shaft and yarn guide drum; said drive including at least one drive pulley (14) carried on said shaft and a drive belt for driving said drive pulley, said at least one drive pulley and drive belt being in spaced relation to one side of said yarn guide drum; and

said fastening clamp (4) having portions (33a' 33b, 33c') extending through and beyond a plane defined by a rim of the drive pulley that engages an edge of the drive belt on a yarn guide drum side of the belt.

27. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

28. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 27 in which said housing is in two parts, and said jaw is formed on one of the housing parts (25, 33).

29. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 28 in which the housing parts (25, 33) fit over one another in the region of the fastening clamp (4), and said housing parts (25, 33) are joined together by at least one support (27, 28) in the region of the fastening device (4).

30. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 26 including a coupling

device (86) disposed above the fastening clamp (4) for connecting a further component (89, 90) onto the housing.

31. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 26 in which the housing (3) has receptacles into which metal elements (38, 39) are disposed and which serve as conductor tracks for electrical components associated with the yarn feeder.

32. (Previously Presented) A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for fastening to a retaining device of a textile machine;

a shaft (6) extending substantially vertically through said housing (3), a yarn guide drum (4) mounted adjacent an end of said shaft, a drive device(14) connected to another end of said shaft;

yarn guides (95a, 97) for defining a yarn travel path toward and away from the yarn guide drum (12);

at least two bearings (7, 8) for rotatably supporting said shaft (6);

said housing (3) having at least one first housing part (25) oriented toward said yarn guide drum (12) and having a bearing seat (10) for one of said bearings (8);

said housing (3) having at least one second housing part (33) oriented toward the drive device (14) and having a seat for the other bearing (7);

at least one connector (64) for connecting the housing parts (25, 33) together in properly positioned relation;

said housing (3) having a substantially horizontal dividing seam (83) between said housing parts (25, 33), and said housing parts (25, 33) have alignment members (32, 34, 35) which locate the housing parts (25, 33) in proper positionable relation to each other; and

wherein said bearings (7, 8) are ball bearings and said bearing seats (9, 10) are tubular members pointing away from each other, each tubular member being integrally formed in a respective one of the housing parts (25, 33).

Claims 33 and 34 (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which one of said tubular portions is oriented toward the yarn guide drum (12) and extends into an interior defined by the yarn guide drum (12).

36. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 32 including bearing receiving elements disposed between the bearing seats (9, 10) and the bearings (7, 8), and said bearing seats (9, 10) have interrupted bearing faces protruding radially inward in the direction toward the bearings (7, 8).

37. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said fastening clamp (4) has a jaw for receiving the retaining device on the textile machine.

38. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 32 in which said housing is made of plastic.

39. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 38 in which an electrically grounded conductor is disposed within the housing and is connected to at least one metal element (95) that is in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder.

40. (Previously Presented) The yarn feeder of claim 39 including movable sensor elements (45) that are supported on the at least one metal element.

41. (Currently Amended) A yarn feeder (1) particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing (3) having a fastening clamp (4) for securing the yarn feeder to a retaining device of a textile machine;

said housing (3) being made of plastic; and

~~said fastening clamp (4) having a box-like cross-sectional profile with portions that incur clamping forces when said fastening clamp is fastened to a retaining device; and said fastening clamp portions being formed entirely of the plastic material of said housing; and~~

an electrical conductor (38) defining an electrically conductive path between an element in contact with yarn and said fastening clamp (4).

42. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 41 wherein the electrical conductor comprises a metal element that is disposed in the housing.

43. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 41 wherein the element in contact in with yarn is made of metal.

44. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 43 further including movable yarn sensor elements supported on the metal element in contact with yarn.

45. (New) A yarn feeder particularly adapted for use in textile machines comprising:

a housing having a fastening clamp for securing the yarn feeder to a retaining device of a textile machine; said housing being made of plastic;

an element in contact with yarn being fed by the yarn feeder; and

an electrically grounded conductor arranged in the housing and connected to the element in contact with yarn.

46. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 45 wherein the electrically grounded conductor comprises a metal element that is disposed in the housing.

47. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 45 wherein the element in contact in with yarn is made of metal.

48. (New) The yarn feeder of claim 47 further including movable yarn sensor elements supported on the metal element in contact with yarn.